

DETAILED ACTION

1. The current application has been allowed and issued on 8/13/2008. Applicant files petition to withdraw from issue under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(2). The petition has been granted on 8/25/08 and the application has been withdrawn from issue for consideration of a submission under 37 CFR 1.114. With the submission under 37 CFR 1.114 (RCE), the applicant has filed information disclosure statements containing non-English translated Japanese Office Action in corresponding Japanese Application No. 2003-386037 and Japanese references with abstract English translation. The examiner called the applicant, John R. Lastova on 08/17/08, requiring an English translation to the Japanese Office Action. The examiner herein considers the English translated Japanese Office Action faxed. In view of the submitted Japanese Office Action, references and updated search, the examiner herein allows claims 1-24.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-24 are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Art Unit: 2136

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eleni A. Shiferaw whose telephone number is 571-272-3867.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nasser R. Moazzami can be reached on (571) 272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Eleni A Shiferaw/
Examiner, Art Unit 2136
September 18, 2008

/Nasser G Moazzami/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2136